

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT
SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT GROVE HOUSE ON 21ST MARCH 2018**

Meeting Commenced: 7.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 7.55pm

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Bailey (Chairman), Ray Armstrong, Robert Cleland, Len Purnell, and Richard Tucker.

Non-Voting co-opted members: George Raines, (Chairman of the Allotment Club) and allotment managers: Mike Philips (Kewstoke) and Clive Wall (Rectors Way)

IN ATTENDANCE: Rob Thurston (Grounds Manager), Theresa Donald (Amenities Officer) and Tricia Brabham (Committee Officer)

386	<p>Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes</p> <p>Apologies of absence were received from Mike Tansley, Kevin Pearce, Jenny Nicholls, and Frank Gould.</p>
387	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
388	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th December 2017 had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>
389	<p>Committee Meeting Timings</p> <p>The Grounds Manager advised that due to working patterns, Wednesday was a difficult day for officers and requested that meetings be held on a Tuesday.</p> <p>Councillor Tucker agreed to send the Committee Officer the dates of North Somerset Council District Meetings which were held on a Tuesday, so they could be avoided.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Allotment Sub Committee Meetings be held every three months, on the last Tuesday of the month.</p>
390	<p>Grounds Manager update</p> <p>Tree inspections</p> <p>The Grounds Manager advised the tree inspector was doing initial checks on trees to identify which trees needed a detailed survey. At the Grounds Manager's request he had inspected the Poplar Tree at Hutton Moor following reports that the ground beneath the tree moved when it was windy. The Tree Inspector had advised he could see no signs of the ground movement, and suggested he visit on a windy day and meet the allotment manager who had concerns over the tree.</p>

Hutton Moor Access Track – Entrance widening/bollards

The Grounds Manager advised that the Town Council was looking to progress the entrance widening works in April 2018, the earliest that the budget would be available for the work.

Hutton Moor – Stone for Access Track

The Grounds Manager advised that the Senior Groundsman had visited the site and filled in one pothole, he had also assisted the Allotment Club in getting a wacker plate.

Flooding on Old Mill Way

The Grounds Manager advised that he had contacted the drainage board, but they had informed him that the culverts at Old Mill Way allotments were out of their area. If committee wanted to progress further, they would need the expertise of drainage engineer. There was section 106 funding available that could be used.

Debate ensued. Members discussed the cost of employing the drainage engineer and if the flooding was resolvable.

A member advised that he sat on the Drainage Board and would contact them.

PROPOSED: Councillor Roger Bailey

SECONDED: Councillor Robert Cleland

RESOLVED: That the Grounds Manager contact the drainage engineer to get a quote for further exploration of the flooding issues at Old Mill Way.

The Chairman requested the Grounds Manager inform him of the costs when he had them.

Bournville Allotments

The Grounds Manager advised that Alliance Homes had identified they weren't happy for additional barbed wire to go on their fence. The Grounds Manager had arranged to speak to the surveyor from Alliance Homes after Easter.

Access Track Kewstoke

The Grounds Manager advised that in April 2018 a new play facility would be installed at Lynch Farm, which leads off the Kewstoke Allotments Track. All options for access were being considered but the stone path that leads to the play area may make it the preferred option. Efforts would be made to minimize inconvenience to the allotment holders.

Debate ensued. Members noted that the track was in a poor state, and that a container to store equipment in could be placed in the old disused car park.

Rectors Way – Littering and dumping in the rhine

The Grounds Manager advised that a report had been received about dumping in the rhine at Rectors Way.

The Chairman of the Allotment Club advised that he had investigated and it was on a public right of way and was not the allotment holders doing.

The Chairman of the Allotment Club advised that he had spoken to North Somerset Council regarding the Elder Tree at Kewstoke that was outside the allotment borders. They had advised they would do some work after Christmas but this had not happened.

	<p>The ward councillor for the area advised he would chase it up.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.</p>																																		
391	<p>Issues arising from the Town Council/Allotment Club Agreement</p> <p>There were no issues raised.</p>																																		
392	<p>To receive verbal reports from allotment site managers:</p> <p>Rectors Way – George Raines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two empty plots but they would be filled by the end of the week. • The rhine couldn't be dug out until the end of summer <p>Redpits – Geoge Raines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two empty plots • They are waiting on stone being delivered to improve the track • The plot at the top of the hill has no soil left, but the plot holder has put raised beds on it so it could still be used. <p>Kewstoke – Mike Phillips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One plot vacant but it had already been let. <p>Hutton Moor – George Raines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One empty plot • They had three suppliers of horse manure, but because of the wet weather it wasn't getting used by allotment holders, so had requested that next time it is delivered to Old Mill Way as they do not have any. <p>Bournville – George Raines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One empty plot <p>Old Mill Way – Old Mill Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two empty plots 																																		
393	<p>To receive and consider details of the current Allotment Waiting List</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No of individual residents requesting allotment plots</th> <th></th> <th>Adjustment @21st March 2018</th> <th>Second Plot Requests</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Plot Requests</td> <td>51</td> <td></td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hutton</td> <td>16</td> <td>+1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clarks</td> <td>20</td> <td>+1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Redpits</td> <td>14</td> <td></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kewstoke</td> <td>8</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bourneville</td> <td>15</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Locking Castle</td> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			No of individual residents requesting allotment plots		Adjustment @21 st March 2018	Second Plot Requests	Total Plot Requests	51		9	Hutton	16	+1	2	Clarks	20	+1	0	Redpits	14		4	Kewstoke	8		0	Bourneville	15		2	Locking Castle	9		2
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	<p>The Allotment Club Chairman advised that from 2019 rents will increase by 10p per metre. This was the first rise for two years. In addition they are going to requests rents in October instead of April, so any new allotment holders in October have the opportunity to sort the allotment out before growing season starts.</p> <p>A member suggested that with the expanding population in Weston, we could ask North Somerset Council for another allotment site.</p> <p>The Chairman of the Allotment Club advised that the waiting list was only 39, if demand reached 100 they could consider another site then.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The number of individual residents requesting allotment plots be noted.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm.</p> <p>The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 26th June 2018 at 7.00 pm.</p>

Signed..... Dated.....
Chairman